

JAN:31891

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## IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

In re patent application of: )  
 Larry C. Wilkins ) Before the Examiner  
 Serial No. 09/061,503 ) George L. Walton  
 Filed April 16, 1998 ) Group Art Unit 3753  
 BALL VALVE SEAL ) January 12, 1999  
 REPLACEMENT APPARATUS )  
 AND METHOD ) Our Ref. 4090-126

I hereby certify that this paper is being facsimile  
 transmitted to Examiner George L. Walton, 703-  
 308-7765 in the Patent and Trademark Office on

Joseph A. Naughton

(name of person signing certification)

January 12, 1999

Date

Joseph A. Naughton

Signature

SUPPLEMENTAL AMENDMENT AFTER FIRST OFFICE ACTION

Assistant Commissioner for Patents  
 Washington, D.C. 20231

**RECEIVED**

JAN 12 1999

Sir:

**Group 3700**

Further in response to the official action dated July 16, 1998, and supplementing  
 the response dated December 11, 1998, please enter the following amendments and  
 remarks. Any additional necessary fees may be charged to Deposit Account No. 23-  
 3030, but not to include payment of issue fees.

**IN THE CLAIMS:**

1. (Amended Twice) [With] For use with a ball valve assembly having: a  
 valve body including an inlet face with a mounting flange and an inlet, and an outlet face  
 with a mounting flange and an outlet, and a passageway therethrough from the inlet to the  
 outlet, and a valve ball in the passageway and operable to close the passageway thereby  
 dividing the passageway into an inlet passageway and an outlet passageway, and first and  
 second seals engaging the valve ball at the outlet passageway and the inlet passageway,